lities for import of vegetable and flower seeds under OGL; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) Under Open General Licence, the vegetable and flower seeds are to be imported through the sea|air ports of Amritsar, Bombay, Calcutta; Delhi and Madras. The capacities of the existing Plant Quarantine and Fumigation Stations at these places are given in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha. (*See* below). These capacities will need strengthening to handle the expected additional imports of seeds of vegetables and flowers. For this purpose a programme has been drawn up to strengthen these Stations by way of provision of well equipped laboratories, modern equipment and other infrastructural facilities and suitable manpower.

The existing capacity to handle seeds and propagating material from Plant Quarantine engle at five major Plant Quarantine and Fumigation Stations (P.Q. and F.S.) at Amritsar Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras is as under:—

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of P.Q.& F.S.	Existing capacity per annum Kg./Nos.
1	Amritsar	19,200 Kg. / 86,400 Nos.
2	Bombay	48,000 Kg. / 2,16,000 Nos.
3	Calcutta	33,600 Kg. / 1,51,200 Nos.
4	Delhi	24,000 Kg. / 1,08,000 Nos.
5	Madras	19,200 Kg. / 86,400 Nos.

Wage Boards Report for Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees

*60. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what work has been completed by the wage boards for working journalists and non-journalists employees of Newspapers and News Agencies;

(b) by when the boards would finally submit their reports and whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that the reports are submitted by March 31, 1989 finally and that no further extension is required; and

(c) by when Government are likely to announce their decision on the wage boards recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (*SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY*): (a) The Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees had published the tentative proposals in August, 1988 and have received comments in this regard. The Boards have given hearing to the employees and employers on these proposals. The Wage Boards are holding meetings so as to progress their work to finalisation.

(b) The terms of the Chairman and the staff of the Wage Boards has been further extended to 31-3-89. The Boards regulate their own procedure in connection with their work.

(c) Government can announce decision only after the Wage Boards have submitted their reports, and after Government has considered these.

Failure of Agricultural Research and Development Programme

298. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various seeds sapling have been put under Open General License as appeared in the 'Economic Times' of 14-1-1989 largely due to failure of Agriculture R and D, and National Seeds Corporation in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware that similar situation exists in case of milk and fish production due to failure of R and D units and agencies such as National Dairy Development Board; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the situation and save the country and economy and also help nutrition of the population by helping in growth and progress of Dairy Development and Fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The import of some of the identified categories of seeds/planting materials have been allowed in Open General Licence with a view to providing to the Indian farmer the best planting material available in the world to increase productivity, farm income and also export earnings of the country.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such situation in the case of milk or fish production.

(c) The Government has been reviewing the position in this regard from time to time. It has taken up suitable development programmes with a view to increasing the supply of quality seeds and planting material to the farmers. Operation Flood and other dairy development programmes as well as various inland and marine fisheries development programme are being implemented with the objective of meeting the nutritional requirements of the population. Significant increase has been achieved both in case of milk as well as fish production.

Control of Heliothis Disease of Cotton by Integrated Pest Management

299 SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Heliothis disease of cotton finally has been contained in Andhra Pradesh through use of pesticides or any other methods such as Integrated Pest Management;

(b) whether Government are aware that similar outbreaks in South America were controlled using integrated pest management; and

(c) whether Government propose to send farmers from A.P. and R and D Scientists abroad to study these methods?